

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Aminadab Orduno,

Orduno,

vs.

Dora B. Schriro, et al.,

Respondents.

CV08-0526-TUC-FRZ (JR)

**REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION**

Pending before the Court is Aminadab Orduno's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Doc. 1) filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. In accordance with the Rules of Practice of the United States District Court for the District of Arizona and 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1), this matter was referred to the Magistrate Judge for report and recommendation. As explained below, the Magistrate Judge recommends that the District Court, after an independent review of the record, dismiss the Petition with prejudice.

1 **I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND**

2 In its Memorandum Decision affirming Orduno's conviction, the Arizona
3 Court of Appeals summarized the factual background as follows:

4 Orduno and an unknown accomplice [subsequently identified as Arturo
5 Astorga] went to the home of Orduno's former employer, M, while M
6 was at work but his wife S, their children C and T, and the children's
7 nanny L were home. Orduno claimed M had sent them and forced his
8 way into the home. At gunpoint, the intruders bound and blindfolded S
9 and L with duct tape and threatened to harm C. Following her captor's
10 instructions, S telephoned M and told him to come home. Before he
11 arrived, Orduno's accomplice left with three-year-old C. As M walked
12 into the house, he saw a masked man holding a gun. The gunman
13 whispered instructions to S, who communicated to M that they had
14 taken C and wanted \$500,000 for his safe return. When M responded
15 that he could only obtain \$100,000 in cash, the gunman broke a
16 ceramic pot and swore. M recognized the gunman's voice as that of
17 Orduno. Orduno threatened that, if M did not cooperate and return
18 with the money in an hour, C would be returned "in little pieces."

19 M left, contacted the police, and gave them Orduno's name.
20 Orduno later saw police outside the front of the house and apparently
21 fled through the back of the house and out of the subdivision. Police
22 found C at Orduno's home being watched by Orduno's wife and sisters.
Orduno turned himself in the next day. He at first denied any
involvement in C's kidnapping and denied being in M's house. He
later admitted participating, but claimed he did so under duress.

Answer, Ex. A, pp. 2-3.

After a jury trial, Orduno was found guilty of three counts of kidnapping,
three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, kidnapping a minor under
fifteen, and first-degree burglary. *Id.* p. 1. Orduno was sentenced to a presumptive
prison term of 17 years for kidnapping a minor, to be followed by concurrently
presumptive terms, the longest being 10.5 years, for a total sentence of 27 years. *Id.*,
pp. 1-2.

1 Orduno raised five claims on direct appeal. He asserted that: (1) the trial court
2 erred by rejecting a pre-trial plea agreement; (2) that the prosecution improperly
3 delegated its authority to plea bargain to the victims; (3) that the trial court erred in
4 denying his request for surrebuttal argument on his affirmative defense of duress; (4)
5 that Arizona unconstitutionally places the burden on defendants to prove the
6 affirmative defense of duress; and (5) that Arizona's reasonable doubt instruction is
7 unconstitutional. *Id.*, Ex. A, pp. 3-7. By Memorandum Decision filed July 17, 2003,
8 the Arizona court of Appeals rejected Orduno's claims. *Id.*, Ex. A. Orduno then
9 sought review of the decision by the Arizona Supreme Court, which denied review
10 by order dated March 17, 2004. *Id.*, Ex. K (Petition for Review); Ex. L (Order).

11 While his direct appeal was pending, Orduno began pursuing post-conviction
12 relief (PCR). In April 2001, Orduno filed a Notice of Post-Conviction Relief and in
13 December 2002 he filed the supporting petition. *Id.*, Ex. C, p. 2. Orduno raised
14 several ineffective assistance of counsel (IAC) claims, contending that: (1) he was
15 not effectively represented during his pre-trial incarceration period; (2) counsel failed
16 to timely negotiate a plea agreement in the case; (3) trial counsel failed to provide a
17 written motion for the court to accept a plea agreement or move for continuance of
18 the trial; (4) trial counsel failed to effectively represent him at sentencing; and (5)
19 trial counsel should have executed a written contract for Petitioner to testify in
20 exchange for a lower sentence. *Id.*, pp. 13-21.

21 In addition to the IAC claims, Orduno also alleged that the State had breached
22 the parties' agreement whereby Orduno would testify against Astorga and the parties

1 would seek a reduction of Orduno's sentence. *Id.*, Ex. G, pp. 21-24. Orduno also
2 claimed that his sentences under the dangerous crimes against children statute,
3 A.R.S. § 13-604.01, violated his constitutional right to a jury trial and that his class 2
4 felony kidnapping conviction was unlawful under Arizona law because he had
5 voluntarily released the kidnapped child before he held the child for ransom. *Id.* at
6 pp. 7-11, 24-25.

7 In a ruling filed March 19, 2008, the trial court found Orduno's claims
8 meritless and dismissed the petition. *Id.*, Ex. H. Orduno then sought a rehearing on
9 the petition and, on May 23, 2008, the trial court ruled that he was not entitled to
10 relief. *Id.*, Ex. I. Orduno then sought review of his post-conviction petition in the
11 Arizona Court of Appeals. *Id.*, Ex. J. By Memorandum Decision filed January 7,
12 2009, the Court of Appeals granted review but denied relief. *Id.*, Ex. K.

13 In the instant petition, Orduno raises five claims. In Ground One he asserts
14 that his counsel was ineffective because he failed to secure the beneficial plea offer,
15 failed to meet with Orduno regularly before trial, failed to obtain a psychological
16 examination and present mitigation evidence, and failed to finalize an agreement with
17 the State whereby Orduno's sentence would be reduced in return for his cooperation
18 in the prosecution of his co-defendant. In Ground Two, Orduno argues that the trial
19 court's rejection of the plea agreement violated his right to due process. In Ground
20 Three, Orduno contends that the "improper procedures surrounding plea negotiations
21 . . . created sentences that were impermissibly disparate between" Orduno and
22 Astorga. Ground Four alleges that Orduno's rights under the Fifth Amendment were

1 violated because Arizona law impermissibly places the burden of proof on a
2 defendant to prove duress. In Ground Five, Orduno argues that the reasonable doubt
3 instruction given in his case unconstitutionally diminished the State's burden of
4 proof.

5 **II. LEGAL DISCUSSION**

6 **A. Exhaustion/Preclusion**

7 A state prisoner must exhaust the available state remedies before a federal
8 court may consider the merits of his habeas corpus petition. *See* 28 U.S.C. §
9 2254(b)(1)(A); *Nino v. Galaza*, 183 F.3d 1003, 1004 (9th Cir.1999). Exhaustion
10 occurs either when a claim has been fairly presented to the highest state court, *Picard*
11 *v. Connor*, 404 U.S. 270, 275 (1971), or by establishing that a claim has been
12 procedurally defaulted and that no state remedies remain available, *Reed v. Ross*, 468
13 U.S. 1, 11 (1984).

14 Exhaustion requires that a habeas petitioner present the substance of his
15 claims to the state courts in order to give them a "fair opportunity to act" upon these
16 claims. *See O'Sullivan v. Boerckel*, 526 U.S. 838, 844 (1999). A claim has been
17 "fairly presented" if the petitioner has described the operative facts and legal theories
18 on which the claim is based. *Picard v. Connor*, 404 U.S. 270, 277-78 (1971); *Rice v.*
19 *Wood*, 44 F.3d 1396, 1403 (9th Cir. 1995). The operative facts must be presented in
20 the appropriate context to satisfy the exhaustion requirement. The fair presentation
21 requirement is not satisfied, for example, when a claim is presented in state court in a
22 procedural context in which its merits will not be considered in the absence of special

1 circumstances. *Castille*, 489 U.S. at 351. An exact correlation of the claims in both
2 state and federal court is not required. *Rice*, 44 F.3d at 1403. The substance of the
3 federal claim must have been fairly presented to the state courts. *Chacon v. Wood*,
4 36 F.3d 1459, 1467 (9th Cir. 1994) (citations omitted).

5 A petitioner may also exhaust his claims by either showing that a state court
6 found his claims defaulted on procedural grounds or, if he never presented his claims
7 in any forum, that no state remedies remain available to him. *See Jackson v. Cupp*,
8 693 F.2d 867, 869 (9th Cir. 1982). "To exhaust one's state court remedies in
9 Arizona, a petitioner must first raise the claim in a direct appeal or collaterally attack
10 his conviction in a petition for post-conviction relief pursuant to Rule 32," *Roettgen*
11 *v. Copeland*, 33 F.3d 36, 38 (9th Cir. 1994), and then present his claims to the
12 Arizona Court of Appeals. *See Swoopes v. Sublett*, 196 F.3d 1008, 1010 (9th Cir.
13 1999).

14 **1. Ground Two**

15 Respondents assert that Orduno did not exhaust Ground Two of the Petition.
16 In that claim, Orduno alleges the trial court denied him due process by rejecting a
17 plea agreement that the parties did not proffer until the first day of trial, in
18 contravention of a local superior court rule. *Petition*, p. 7. Respondents contend that
19 the state courts found the claim procedurally defaulted under Arizona law and,
20 therefore, it is precluded from federal habeas review under the independent state
21 ground doctrine. *Answer*, pp. 9-10. In reply, Orduno contends that the claims were
22

1 presented and addressed by the Arizona Court of Appeals on both direct appeal and
2 in relation to his petition for post-conviction relief. *Traverse*, p. 7.

3 While Orduno is correct that the Court of Appeals addressed Ground Two on
4 direct appeal and in PCR proceedings, he ignores the fact that in both decisions the
5 claim was determined to be barred from review. In his direct appeal, Orduno was
6 found to have waived the claim because he was obligated to raise it by special action
7 after it was rejected by the trial court. As the Court of Appeals explained:

8 Orduno did not seek special action relief from this interlocutory
9 decision. He instead chose to proceed to trial and attempted to secure a
10 favorable outcome. Consequently, we conclude he has waived this
11 argument on appeal. *See State v. Espinosa*, 200 Ariz. 503, 29P.3d 278
(App. 2001) (had defendant timely challenged withdrawal of plea offer,
12 . . . , *cf State v. Valdez*, 160 Ariz. 9, 13-14, 770 P.2d 313, 317-18
(1989).

13 *Answer*, Ex. A, pp. 3-4. In his PCR proceedings, the trial court and the Court of
14 Appeals rejected Orduno's contention that a significant change of the law had
15 occurred and that he was thus entitled to review of the claim under Rule 32.1(g),
16 Ariz.R.Crim.P. *Answer*, Ex. C.

17 To satisfy the requirement that a claim be "fairly presented," the petitioner
18 must present the claim "through the proper vehicle." *Insyxiengmay v. Morgan*, 403
19 F.3d 657, 668 (9th Cir. 2005). As the claim was presented in state court in procedural
20 contexts where its merits could not properly be considered, the fair presentation
21 requirement is not satisfied. *Castille*, 489 U.S. at 351.
22

1 Orduno’s contention that the merits were addressed despite the application of
2 the procedural bar is true but unhelpful to his cause. The state court may reach “the
3 merits of a federal claim in an alternative holding” and still avoid habeas review, “as
4 long as the state court explicitly invokes a state procedural bar rule.” *Harris v. Reed*,
5 489 U.S. 255, 264 n. 10 (1989). The Court of Appeals, on both direct and PCR
6 review, explicitly invoked the rules prohibiting Orduno’s claim, explaining on direct
7 appeal that a defendant facing such circumstances must seek special action relief, and
8 that a change of law was necessary before Rule 32.1(g) could be invoked. As such,
9 this Ground 2 is unexhausted.

10 **II. Ground 3**

11 In Ground 3, Orduno states that after he was convicted and sentenced, he was
12 offered a sentence reduction in return for testifying against his co-defendant, Astorga.
13 The agreement was never fully consummated and Astorga was eventually sentenced
14 to probation, thereby resulting in what Orduno alleges were “sentences that were
15 impermissibly disparate.” *Petition*, p. 8. Respondents contend that this claim is
16 procedurally defaulted and precluded from federal review. Specifically, Respondents
17 allege that, in denying this claim, the state court invoked adequate and independent
18 state grounds for doing so and, additionally, that the claim was not raised as a federal
19 claim.

20 This claim was not raised by Orduno on direct appeal. *Answer*, Ex. H (Brief
21 on Appeal). In post-conviction proceedings, Orduno raised the claim, but it was
22 argued and decided on state law grounds. *Answer*, Ex. G (Rule 32 Petition), pp. 21-

1 24; Ex. C (Memorandum Decision), pp. 9-10. Additionally, the post-conviction
2 court found the claim procedurally defaulted because it was not raised on direct
3 appeal. *Id.*, Ex. C, p. 9. Thus, as was the case with Ground 2, Ground 3 was not
4 fairly presented through the proper vehicle. *Insyxiengmay v. Morgan*, 403 F.3d 657,
5 668 (9th Cir. 2005).

6 Moreover, Ground 3 was not federalized. The Ninth Circuit has held that a
7 “general appeal to a constitutional guarantee, such as due process, is insufficient to
8 satisfy fair presentation requirements.” *Shumway v. Payne*, 223 F.3d 982, 987 (9th
9 Cir.2000) (quoting *Gray v. Netherland*, 518 U.S. 152, 163 (1996). “Exhaustion
10 demands more than drive-by citation, detached from any articulation of an underlying
11 federal legal theory.” *Castillo v. McFadden*, 399 F.3d 993, 1003 (9th Cir.2005).
12 Moreover, “mere similarity between a claim of state and federal error is insufficient
13 to establish exhaustion.” *Shumway*, 223 F.3d at 988 (quotations omitted). Under
14 these standards, Ground 3 is not exhausted. The context shows that Orduno raised
15 his equal protection claim as a purely state law matter and cited only state case law.
16 *Answer*, Ex. G, p. 24. The cited case is not explained or applied. Orduno’s “drive-
17 by” citations, without some explanation or argument, are insufficient to establish fair
18 presentment. *Shumway*, 223 F.3d at 987 (“It is not enough to make a general appeal
19 to a constitutional guarantee as broad as due process to present the ‘substance of such
20 a claim to a state court.’”).

1 **3. Ground IV**

2 In Ground IV, Orduno argues that the state court improperly burdened him
3 with proving duress and also improperly prohibited him from presenting a surrebuttal
4 argument on the issue. *Petition*, p. 9. Respondents agree that these claims were
5 raised in the state courts, but that the surrebuttal claim was challenged only on state
6 law grounds. *Answer*, p. 11. Respondents are correct. Orduno mentioned no federal
7 authority in arguing this claim on direct appeal. *Id.*, Ex. H, pp. 18-19. As such, this
8 claim is not exhausted. *Castillo*, 399 F.3d at 1003.

9 **4. The unexhausted claims are procedurally barred**

10 Respondents contend and Orduno does not contradict, that Orduno is
11 procedurally barred from now raising these claims in State court. *See* Ariz.R.Crim.P.
12 32.2(a)(3) (“A defendant shall be precluded from relief under [Rule 32] based upon
13 any ground . . . [t]hat has been waived at trial, on appeal, or in any previous collateral
14 proceeding.”) Because Orduno did not properly present any of these claims to the
15 Arizona courts, the claims are procedurally defaulted and barred from federal review.
16 Ariz.R.Crim.P. 32.1, 32.2(a) & (b); *Beaty v. Stewart*, 303 F.3d 975, 987 (9th Cir.
17 2002). As such, the merits of the claims need not be addressed unless Orduno
18 establishes cause and prejudice or that a fundamental miscarriage of justice has
19 occurred. Orduno has not attempted to do so, and the Court recommends that
20 Orduno’s non-exhausted claims be denied.

1 **B. Merits**

2 Under the AEDPA, a federal court "shall not" grant habeas relief with respect
3 to "any claim that was adjudicated on the merits in State court proceedings" unless
4 the state decision was (1) contrary to, or an unreasonable application of, clearly
5 established federal law as determined by the United States Supreme Court; or (2)
6 based on an unreasonable determination of the facts in light of the evidence presented
7 in the State court proceeding. 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d). *See Williams v. Taylor*, 120
8 S.Ct. 1495 (2000). A state court's decision can be "contrary to" federal law either (1)
9 if it fails to apply the correct controlling authority, or (2) if it applies the controlling
10 authority to a case involving facts "materially indistinguishable" from those in a
11 controlling case, but nonetheless reaches a different result. *Van Tran v. Lindsey*, 212
12 F.3d 1143, 1150 (9th Cir. 2000). In determining whether a state court decision is
13 contrary to federal law, the court must examine the last reasoned decision of a state
14 court and the basis of the state court's judgment. *Packer v. Hill*, 277 F.3d 1092, 1101
15 (9th Cir. 2002). A state court's decision can be an unreasonable application of federal
16 law either (1) if it correctly identifies the governing legal principle but applies it to a
17 new set of facts in a way that is objectively unreasonable, or (2) if it extends or fails
18 to extend a clearly established legal principle to a new context in a way that is
19 objectively unreasonable. *Hernandez v. Small*, 282 F.3d 1132 (9th Cir. 2002).

20 **1. Ground 1: Ineffective Assistance of Counsel**

21 In Ground 1 of the Petition, Orduno alleges several instances of ineffective
22 assistance of counsel. The operative legal standard applicable to these claims is a

1 familiar one, addressed by the United States Supreme Court in *Strickland v.*
2 *Washington*, 466 U.S. 668 (1984). The standards enunciated there by the Court are
3 applied unless there is other Supreme Court precedent directly on point. *See Wright*
4 *v. Van Patten*, 128 S.Ct. 743, 746 (2008). Under *Strickland*, Orduno must show both
5 deficient performance and prejudice in order to establish that counsel's representation
6 was ineffective. 466 U.S. at 687. In the context of habeas claims evaluated under §
7 2254(d)(1) standards, the question "is not whether a federal court believes the state
8 court's determination was incorrect but whether that determination was
9 unreasonable— a substantially higher threshold." *Schriro v. Landrigan*, 550 U.S. 465,
10 473 (2007).

11 Orduno's first claim is that his counsel's performance was ineffective because
12 he did not timely present the plea agreement to the trial court and it was therefore
13 rejected. Under the Sixth Amendment, a defendant is entitled to effective assistance
14 of counsel during plea bargaining. *Lafler v. Cooper*, 132 S.Ct. 1376, 1388 (2012).
15 Counsel can be found to be ineffective in cases where a defendant has lost benefits he
16 "would have received in the ordinary course but for counsel's ineffective assistance."
17 *Id.* However, as explained below, even if Orduno's counsel was ineffective due to
18 the untimely presentation of the plea agreement to the trial court, the state court
19 reasonably determined that the trial court would not have accepted the plea even if it
20 had been timely presented.

21 In the last reasoned decision on this claim, the Court of Appeals appropriately
22 identified the *Strickland* standards to evaluate Orduno's counsel's performance, and

1 went directly to the prejudice prong as it is entitled to do. *See Jackson v. Calderon*,
2 211 F.3d 1148, 1155 n. 3 (9th Cir. 2000). In rejecting the claim, the court stated:

3 The claim that counsel had been ineffective for failing to present
4 the plea agreement earlier than the day of trial necessarily fails because,
5 even if deficient, counsel's performance cannot be characterized as
6 prejudicial in light of the court's finding that it would not have
7 accepted a plea in these circumstances.

8 *Answer*, Ex. C. pp. 5-6. The circumstances to which the Court of Appeals refers are
9 those underlying Orduno's conviction, which it summarized as follows: "Orduno
10 and his codefendant had terrorized a family, holding a mother, her two small
11 children, and the babysitter at gunpoint, demanding money. They then kidnapped the
12 older child." *Id.*, p. 4.

13 Orduno argues that the trial court, in initially rejecting his plea, relied solely
14 on its untimeliness and made no mention of other grounds for rejecting the plea.
15 However, at the hearing on his PCR petition, the trial judge affirmed his rejection of
16 the plea agreement and expressly stated that: "I still find based upon the facts of this
17 case, particularizing this case, the extreme and egregious behavior from [Orduno] did
18 not warrant this kind of plea agreement." *Id.*, Ex. B, p. 14. Surmounting *Strickland's*
19 high bar is never . . . easy.'" *Harrington v. Richter*, 131 S.Ct. 770, 786 (2011)
20 (quoting *Padilla v. Kentucky*, 130 S.Ct. 1473, 1485 (2010)). Establishing that a state
21 court's application of *Strickland* was unreasonable under § 2254(d) is even more
22 difficult, because both standards are "highly deferential," and because *Strickland's*
general standard has a substantial range of reasonable applications. *Harrington*, 131
S.Ct. at 788 (citations omitted). Although, Orduno is correct that the trial court,

1 when it initially rejected the plea agreement, made no mention of the egregious
2 nature of the crime as influencing his decision, given the standards of review, this
3 Court cannot find the decision unreasonable. As the Court of Appeals noted, the
4 nature of the crime was such that a trial judge could reasonably reject the plea
5 agreement reached before trial. Given that the record reflects that he would have
6 done so, Orduno cannot show prejudice and this claim must be denied.

7 Orduno next contends that his counsel was ineffective because he did not
8 speak with him until he had “been incarcerated for 126 days and met with him only
9 one other time four months later.” *Petition*, p. 6. As Respondents point out,
10 Orduno’s trial counsel was not appointed to his case until more than two months after
11 Orduno’s initial appearance because Orduno had successfully moved for a change of
12 counsel. *Answer*, Ex. D., pp. 72-76. Additionally, Orduno does not explain the
13 prejudice that resulted from the delay and, in fact, recalls that he spoke to trial
14 counsel on the phone, but does not remember the dates. *Id.*, p. 76. Under *Strickland*,
15 Orduno must show both deficient performance and prejudice in order to establish that
16 counsel’s representation was ineffective. 466 U.S. at 687. As the Court of Appeals
17 reasonably determined, *id.*, Ex. C, p. 6, nothing in the facts presented by Orduno on
18 this claim support a finding of deficient performance or prejudice.

19 Also in Claim 1, Orduno asserts that his counsel’s performance was deficient
20 because he did not seek to have Orduno’s psychological condition more extensively
21 examined. There are a number flaws that are fatal to this argument. As a threshold
22 matter, Orduno fails to establish what prejudice resulted from these alleged

1 shortcomings. He does not explain how further examination of his suicidal behavior
2 would have benefited him and does not explain what mitigating evidence could have
3 been presented to benefit him at sentencing. Moreover, as the Court of Appeals
4 stated, the trial court evaluating and rejected this claim, implicitly finding that
5 “nothing counsel might have presented at sentencing, particularly through a
6 psychological evaluation, would have changed the sentences and the [trial] court’s
7 view that they were appropriate for the crimes committed.” *Answer*, Ex. C., pp. 5-6.
8 Given the state of the record, and the dearth of evidence Orduno presents, the Court
9 cannot find that the Court of Appeals determination on this claim was unreasonable.

10 Orduno’s final ineffective assistance claim relates to the purported agreement
11 between Orduno and the state whereby Orduno would testify against Astorga, his co-
12 defendant, in exchange for a reduction of his sentence. *Petition*, p. 6. In relation to
13 this claim, the Arizona Court of Appeals concluded:

14 the [trial] court found, first at the end of the September 26 hearing and
15 again after the December 5 hearing, that the parties never had reached a
16 binding “contract” regarding Orduno’s cooperation with the state and
17 possible resentencing. This finding is apparently based on and
18 supported by [trial counsel] Martin’s December 5 testimony and the
19 information that had been provided through counsel during the
20 September hearing. Orduno has not persuaded us on review that the
21 trial court abused its discretion in denying relief on this claim.

22 *Answer*, Ex. C., p. 8. Orduno has not explained how this determination was
unreasonable or identified facts that would contradict the state courts’ conclusion on
this claim. Thus, he has not satisfied the requirements that he show both deficient
performance and prejudice under *Strickland*, or even approached establishing that the

1 state courts' application of *Strickland* was unreasonable under § 2254(d).
2 *Harrington*, 131 S.Ct. at 788.

3 **2. Ground 4: Duress**

4 Orduno contends that his due process rights were violated because Arizona
5 law, A.R.S. § 13-205(A), impermissibly imposed upon him the burden of proving his
6 affirmative duress defense. *Petition*, p. 9. In denying this claim, the Court of
7 Appeals reiterated that:

8 We recently rejected this argument in *State v. Jeffrey*, 203 Ariz. 111,
9 ¶11, 50 P.3d 861, ¶11 (App. 2002), stating "because the absence of
10 duress is not an element of the offense, the legislature may
constitutionally impose upon the defendant the burden of proving it."

11 *Answer*, Ex. A, p. 6. As Respondents assert, this holding is entirely consistent with
12 clearly established federal law. In *Patterson v. New York*, 432 U.S. 197 (1977), the
13 Supreme Court, addressing the burden of proof in relation to the affirmative defense
14 of insanity, noted that, "once the facts constituting a crime are established beyond a
15 reasonable doubt, based on all the evidence including the evidence of the defendant's
16 mental state, the State may refuse to sustain the affirmative defense of insanity unless
17 demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence." *Id.* at 206. Orduno does not
18 identify any element of a charge against him that required the state to prove the
19 absence of duress. Thus, the requirement that Orduno prove duress was consistent
20 with *Patterson*.

1 **3. Ground 5: Jury Instruction**

2 Orduno asserts that the trial court's instruction on reasonable doubt
3 "unconstitutionally diminished the state's burden of proof, violating due process . . .
4 ." *Petition*, p. 9. The language used in the jury instruction is drawn from the
5 reasonable doubt instruction adopted by the Arizona Supreme Court in *State v.*
6 *Portillo*, 182 U.S. 592 (1995). In summarily denying this claim in Orduno's direct
7 appeal, the Arizona Court of Appeals relied on two then-recent Arizona Supreme
8 Court cases which approved of the instruction: *State v. Prince*, 204 Ariz. 156, 61
9 P.3d 450 (2003) and *State v. Van Adams*, 194 Ariz. 408, 984 P.2d 16 (1999).
10 *Answer*, Ex. A, p. 7. The appeals court's decision was neither contrary to, nor an
11 unreasonable application of, clearly established U.S. Supreme Court precedent.

12 It has been repeatedly noted that the jury instruction given in this matter is a
13 nearly a verbatim copy of the pattern jury instruction on reasonable doubt adopted by
14 the Federal Judicial Center. *See Van Adams*, 194 Ariz. At 418, 984 P.2d at 26
15 (noting instruction based on FJC instruction). The Ninth Circuit has upheld language
16 that is identical or substantially similar to the FJC's pattern instruction. *See Himes v.*
17 *Thompson*, 336 F.3d 848, 853 (9th Cir. 2003). Accordingly, the Arizona Court of
18 Appeals' decision denying this claim was not clearly contrary to nor an unreasonable
19 application of federal law and Orduno is not entitled to habeas relief on the basis of
20 this claim.

1 **III. RECOMMENDATION**

2 Based on the foregoing, the Magistrate Judge **RECOMMENDS** that the
3 District Court, after its independent review, **deny** Orduno's Petition for Writ of
4 Habeas Corpus (Doc. 1).

5 This Recommendation is not an order that is immediately appealable to the
6 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Any notice of appeal pursuant to Rule 4(a)(1),
7 Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, should not be filed until entry of the District
8 Court's judgment.

9 However, the parties shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of service of
10 a copy of this recommendation within which to file specific written objections with
11 the District Court. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Rules 72(b), 6(a) and 6(e) of the
12 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Thereafter, the parties have fourteen (14) days
13 within which to file a response to the objections. If any objections are filed, this
14 action should be designated case number: **CV 08-526-TUC-FRZ**. Failure to timely
15 file objections to any factual or legal determination of the Magistrate Judge may be
16 considered a waiver of a party's right to *de novo* consideration of the issues. *See*
17 *United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114, 1121 (9th Cir.2003)(*en banc*).\

18 Dated this 14th day of January, 2013.

19
20 
21 Jacqueline M. Rateau
22 United States Magistrate Judge